UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/315,200	05/19/1999	PAUL WESCHLER	P3776	6203

7590   03/28/2002

WILLIAM J KUBIDA ESQ.
HOGAN & HARTSON LLP
1200 17TH STREET SUITE 1500
DENVER, CO 80202

EXAMINER
PHAM, KHANH B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2177	

DATE MAILED: 03/28/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *27 September 2001* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-53* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-53* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6)☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2.   Claims 1-53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Thomas

(U.S Patent 5,838,970).

As per claims 1,18,41, 48 and 49, Thomas teaches "a method for managing a

profile service" (Col. 1 lines 5-10) comprising:

- "storing at least one true-data attribute in a profile object, said true-data
  attribute includes a true-data key and at least one true-data value field" at Col.
  14 lines 5-65;

- "associating at least one meta-data attribute with said true-data attribute, said
  meta-data attribute includes a meta-data key and at least one meta-data
  value field" at Col. 3 lines 20-30, and Col. 14, Table 4;

- "wherein the meta-data value field describes the associated true-data
  attribute" at Col. 14, Table 4;

- "storing said associated meta-data attribute in said profile object" at Col. 3 lines 20-30, and Col. 14, Table 4;

- "managing said true-data attribute according to said associated meta-data attribute" at Col. 4 lines 15-30.

As per claim 2, Thomas also teaches: "indicating in said metadata attribute an access privilege of said true-data attribute" at Col. 13 lines 55-60.

As per claim 3, Thomas teaches: "indicating in said metadata attribute an owner of said true-data attribute" at Col. 12, table 3.

As per claim 4, Thomas teaches: "indicating in said metadata attribute a group of said true-data attribute" at Col. 3 line 27.

As per claim 5, Thomas teaches: "indicating in said meta-data attribute a creation time of said true-data attribute" at Col. 10 line 40.

As per claim 6, Thomas teaches: "indicating in said meta-data attribute a update time of said true-data attribute" at Col. 10 line 40.

As per claim 7, Thomas teaches: "indicating in said meta-data attribute a expiration time of said true-data attribute" at Col. 16 lines 10-16.

As per claim 8, Thomas teaches: "identifying said true-data attribute with said expiration time beyond a profile service time and deleting said identified true-data attribute from said profile object" at Col. lines 10-16.

As per claim 9, Thomas teaches: "indicating in said meta-data attribute at least one trigger location of said true-data attribute" at Col. 9 lines 55-65.

As per claim 10, Thomas teaches: "indicating in said metadata attribute a binding flag of said true-data attribute" at Col. 11 lines 5-10.

As per claim 11, Thomas teaches: "indicating in said metadata attribute an assurance level of said true-data attribute" at Col. 13, lines 50-55.

As per claim 12, Thomas teaches: "identifying said meta-data attribute information by a prefix field in said metadata value field" at Col. 32 Table 6.

As per claim 13, Thomas also teaches: "associating at least one profile level metadata attribute to said profile object... " at Col. 24 table 5.

As per claim 14, Thomas teaches: "indicating in said profile level metadata attribute at least one template resource ID of said profile object" at Col. 31 lines 55-65.

As per claim 15, Thomas teaches: "indicating in said profile level metadata attribute an object class of said profile object" at Col. 32 Table 6.

As per claim 16, Thomas teaches: "indicating in said profile level metadata attribute an object ID of said profile object" at Col. 32 table 6.

As per claim 17, Thomas teaches: "indicating in said profile level metadata attribute a binding resource ID of said profile object" at Col. 32, table 6.

As per claim 19, Thomas teaches: "said true-data attribute comprises the user data" at Col.12 Table 3.

As per claim 20, Thomas teaches: "said true-data attribute comprises an external reference to the user data" at Col. 14 lines 30-35.

As per claim 21, Thomas teaches: "at least one true-data attribute binding to another one of said profile objects" at Col. 25 lines 25-50.

As per claim 22, Thomas teaches: "said metadata attribute is identified with a prefix field in said metadata value field" at Col. 32 Table 6.

As per claim 23, Thomas teaches: "metadata key is equated with said true-data key" at Col. 12 table 3 and Col. 14 table 4.

As per claim 24, Thomas teaches: "methods within said profile objects to read and write said true-data attribute" at Col. 16 lines 40-67.

As per claim 25, Thomas teaches: "methods within said profile objects to read and write said meta-data attribute" at Col. 9 lines 40-55.

As per claim 26, Thomas teaches: "methods within the profiling service to set an owner of said true-data attribute" at Col. 13 lines 50-55.

As per claim 27, Thomas teaches: "methods within said profile objects to set an access privilege of said true-data attribute" at Col. 13 lines 55-60.

As per claim 28, Thomas teaches: " methods within said profile object to set a group of said true-data attribute" at Col.3 line 27.

As per claim 29, Thomas teaches: "methods within said profile object to set a creation time of said true-data attribute" at Col. 14, Table 4.

As per claim 30, Thomas teaches: "methods within said profile object to set a update time of said true-data attribute" Col. 14 Table 4.

As per claim 31, Thomas teaches: "method within said profile object to change expiration time of said true-data attribute" 16 lines 10-20.

As per claim 32, Thomas teaches: "methods within said profile object to delete said true-data attribute with said expiration time beyond a profile service time" at Col. 16 lines 10-20.

As per claim 33, Thomas teaches "methods within said profile objects to set a trigger location of said true data attribute" Col. 9 lines 55-65.

As per claim 34, Thomas teaches "methods within said profile objects to set a binding flag of said true-data attribute" at Col. 24, table 5.

As per claim 35, Thomas teaches "methods within said profile objects to set an assurance level of said true-data attribute" at Col. 25 lines 50-65.

As per claim 36, Thomas teaches: "profile level metadata attribute" at Col. 26 lines 18-25.

As per claim 37, Thomas teaches "methods within said profile objects to set a template resource ID of said profile object" at Col. 31 lines 55-65.

As per claim 38, Thomas teaches "methods within said profile objects to set an object class of said profile object" at Col. 32, Table 6.

As per claim 39, Thomas teaches "methods within said profile objects to set an object ID of said profile object" at Col. 32, Table 6.

As per claim 40, Thomas teaches "methods within said profile objects to set a binding resource ID of said profile object" at Col. 32, Table 6.

As per claim 42, Thomas teaches the following :

- "at least one true data attribute contained in each of said profile objects..." at Col. 14 lines 5-65;

- "at least one meta-data attribute associated with said true-data attribute..." at Col. 3 lines 20-30;

As per claim 43, Thomas teaches: "said meta-data attribute specifies an access privilege of said true-data attribute" at Col. 13 lines 55-60.

As per claim 44, Thomas teaches: "said meta-data attribute specifies an expiration time of said true-data attribute" at Col. 16 lines 10-20.

As per claim 45, Thomas teaches: "a method for deleting said true-data attribute with said expiration time beyond a profile service time" at Col. 16 lines 10-20.

As per claim 46, Thomas teaches: "said meta-data attribute specifies a binding flag of said true-data attribute" at Col. 24, Table 5.

As per claim 47, Thomas teaches: "including at least one profile level meta-data attribute associated to the profile object" at Col. 26 lines 18-25.

As per claim 50, Thomas teaches: "the tangible media comprises a magnetic disk" at Col. 8 lines 55-65.

As per claim 51, Thomas teaches: "the tangible media comprises an optical disk" at Col. 8 lines 55-65.

As per claim 52, Thomas teaches: "the tangible media comprises a propagating signal" at Col. 4 lines 45-50.

As per claim 53, Thomas teaches: "the tangible media comprises a random access memory devices" at Col. 8 line 58.

Response to Arguments

3.   Applicant's arguments filed September 27, 2001 have been fully considered but

they are not persuasive.

The examiner respectfully traverses Applicant's primary argument.

In response to Applicant's argument that Thomas (U.S 5,838,970) does not teach

"storing the metadata in the same profile object as the true data". On the contrary, in

Table 4, Col. 14, Thomas teaches true-data attribute includes a true-data key (Object

Type) and true-data value field (#1, #2, ..., #n). Thomas also teaches meta-data

associated with true-data attribute (Search parameters, Executable Information). Both

metadata attribute and true-data attribute are stored in a same profile object, as

described in Table 4.

In response to applicant's argument regarding the distinction between attributes

and metadata, the following is a citation from page 10 of applicant's specification:

- "Attribute – The combination of a key related to one or more values. Frequently

  described as a key=value pair."

- "meta-data – Special data attributes used by a Profile Service to help maintain

  and manage Profiles and user data within a Profiles".

Based on the above definition, if an data attribute is used by a Profile Service to

help maintain and manage Profiles and user data, then it is a meta-data attribute.

Conclusion

4.   The prior art made of record, listed on form PTO-892, and not relied upon, if any,

is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

If a reference indicated as being mailed on PTO-FORM 892 has not been

enclosed in this action, please contact Macia Fletcher whose telephone number is (703)

305-4903 for faster service.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Khanh B. Pham whose telephone number is (703) 308-

7299. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30am to

4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, John E Breene can be reached on (703) 305-9790. The fax phone numbers

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-6606

for regular communications and (703) 308-6606 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-

3900.

KBP

Khanh B. Pham
Art Unit 2177
March 18, 2002

JOHN BREENE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100